The Good Times

Vacation! 25¢

VOL. 14 #4 MIDDLE SCHOOL . PAW PAW, MICHIGAN 49079 JUNE 1988

500 CLUB MEMBERS

The newest members of the 500 Club are Arrow Huff, 605, Jason Bowers, 553, Tony Pechar, 540, Cory Cameron, 539, Chris Dinehart,517, Doug Marr, 508, and Corey Coskey, 503.

High pointers for the 7th grade were Kristin Mandigo and Arrow Huff. 8th graders were Jason Bowers and Sheletha Manuel.

Most improved scores were Mike Curtis,up 116 and Kim Podkol, up 88 ; both are seventh graders. Most improved eighth graders were Matt Szotek up 56 points, and Colleen Coleman ,up 131.

New school records were set by Arrow Huff in all-time high score for 500 club and new chin-up record of 27. Kristen Mandigo set a 2nd all time high score for seventh grade girls, 460.

Tonya Offord set a new shuttle run record of 8.8. seconds, Sheletha Manuel,tied vertical jump record of 24 inches and Cory Cameron tied vertical jump record of 32 inches.

The Summer Good Times was a collaborative effort for Mrs. Swanson's English classes. Much credit goes to typists and banner designer, Matt Hughes and Michelle Knapp. Thank you's too to the fifth and sixth grade teachers at St.Mary's, Black River and Cedar Street.

M. Erickson takes 1st Place

Winning first place in the America and Me essay contest was Mark Erickson. Second place went to Mia Porter and third place to Debbie Lumm.

Mark's name will be engraved on the placque in the trophy case along with the names of the local winners for the last ten years. The contest was open ot all eighth graders in Michigan and sponsored by Farm Bureau.

Track - Boys and Girls

The boys' track team finished off pretty well this year. They won three track meets and lost two.

In the sixteen school meet at Niles they placed seventh. At that meet the boys' 880 relay team tied the record.

The team was coached by Mr. Erickson.

The girls' track team ended their season with four wins out of the five meets they attended.

Allison Smith broke the record for the 800 m.run with a time of 2:51. Amy Houghton broke her own record at the first meet in shot pt with a 34.4 ft. throw. Tonya Offord broke the record for the 200 m.dash with a time of 26.3.

Mrs. Firestone coached the girls.

Team managers were Dawn Flanders, Loree Hoover, and Becky Burge.

BH/DF

CHOIR SINGS May 24

The middle school choir presented a concert May 24th in the gymnasium.

Under the direction of Mr. Fred Sang, the choir performed the following: "We're Doing a Show", "Ridin' the Sun", "Side by Side ", "Me and My Shadow", "I Just Called to Say I Love You", "But not for Me", "Rainbow's End", "We're the Men", "Race to the End", "Trav'ler", "Get on Board", "Where is Love ?" and "Love is a Song."

Soloists were Amy Tarala and Kristi Flesher.

by mp

Munch that lunch...

The following opinions are not those of the staff as a whole but reflect personal viewpoints.

There once was a man named Tom Trunch,
Who died after eating school lunch.
The sight was obscene,
Who could be so mean?
As to mislead poor Tom Trunch
To think our lunch
Was a new flavor of Captain Crunch.

a.s.

and for Dessert

One thing we won't miss a bunch is the school lunch. We don't mean to sound rude but they're a little off when they call it food.

People complain about the food day after day, but they eat it anyway. It seems thatwhen it comes to school lunch, no one has anything nice to say, but hey who can blame them?

cb/pb

Faculty's own Memories of 8th gr.

The faculty and staff were surveyed to find to what they recall as the most memorable moments of their own 8th grade years. Mrs. Chavoya recalls,"Being editor of the newspaper that went between all schools."Mr. Cassell remembers, "Getting a spanking from the principal because he shot rubber bands."

Mr. Erickson recalls." It was when my first love broke my heart or when I broke the junior high city record in shot put or maybe it was when I bought my first suit or when I gave the graduation speech or perhaps when I realized that all A's meant Nerdsville."

Mrs. Barrett remembers when her school started busing and school class sizes doubled." Mr. Watterworth remembers," Being in the high school building, going to the basketball and football games with friends instead of parents. I even went to an away game or two on the spectator bus." It was the year of his "first date for a dress up dance andhe went with Barb Ward,richest little girl in town. Unfortunately a relationship did not develop. Dad drove us to the dance-maybe that was the problem."

Mrs. Reinsch recalls," I took an algebra class that gave me ulcers at a very young age." Mr. Pefley remembers,"Getting knocked out by a girl wielding a baseball bat because I called her a name. There was no playground supervision." Mrs. Vliek recalls,"Graduation. The schools in Chicago had graduation ceremonies at the end of eighth grade; we wore caps and gowns just like high school graduates.

See page 3

"Faculty Memories"

Mrs. Swanson remembers,"Confirmation classes every Saturday , ice skating nearly every day, being in 9th grade choir, winter scout camp, Greg at the Ice Carnival,and playing the part of an asthmatic spinster in the spring play." Mr. Edinger remembers," I kicked a ball in class that landed on the teacher's desk right in front of him. I spent the next week in study hall instead of in that class."

Mr. Topp recalls," When Iwas promoted to ninth grade and being able to take the class trip to Washington D.C." Mrs. Maxwell recalls, "In home ec., we had to invite some boyfriend or girlfriend and fix a formal dinner for them." Mrs. Firestone remembers,"It was the most memorable yet devastating experience. I had to move from Lawton to Paw PAw SChool and leave all my friends behind. But it turned out to be one of the best things that ever happened in my life because I love Paw Paw."

Mr. Lutz recollects,"Folk dancing with a girl taller than I." Mr. Kannegieter recalls, "The year was the one when I did myfirst pull-up and had a rush on Edna." Mr. Ruesink recalls, "the spring of 1965,I was invited to a'lady's choice' dance bya girl I had been flirting with for a year or so.

"Apparently she anticipated great things from the dance bcause during the two weeks previous to the BIG night a day did not pass that I wasnot informed by her friends of her preparations,new dress, new shoes,favorite song,etc."

"The day arrived and I felt slightly under the weather as if I were starting a cold. After school I napped but didn't feel much better. As I peeled off my shirt to shower I glanced in the mirror and noticed that I was covered with a blotchyrash. 'Measles, chicken pox, small pox,' I thought."

"Icalled the girl, apologized and went to bed. The next day I awoke and felt fine. The rash was gone. I accepted an invitation to a pick-up basketball game in the park. The game was intense and drew a crowd. During a pause, I was bent over, sweat streaming down, calling on my team mates to act 'tough' when I happened to look into the spectators and see the girl to who I'd claimed illness the previous night. I will never forget the look she gave. There was no hate in it- only sorrow."

Mr. Drury recalls,"Scoring two touchdowns in one game, the annual dance and being sent to the principal's office forwhat he did at the annual dance." Mrs. Kalisiak recalls,"Being elected to serve on the student council fo her freshman year." Mrs. Dobbs recalls, " being new to Michigan in 8th grade, having moved from Rhode Island." Mrs. Hughes recollects," my home ec. teacher."

Dear Sam,

I've been having problems.I really like this boy and he's been going with someone.He said he might break up with her.How can I get him to go with me?

Dear Wonders,

If you like this boy a lot you should talk to him and tell him how you feel.If you already have,then ask him if he is going to break up or not.It may just be talk and no do.The only way anyone will go with you is if they like you and guys usually like for girls to just be themselves

Elvis Encounter

There I was in Burger King eating a Whopper when I looked over my shoulder to take a peak at a pretty good looking girl sitting by the exit door. Then, suddenly I saw him,Elvis.I kept staring at him and I finally made the decision that it really was him.As I looked at him with my Suspicious Mind.I thought, "Well,isn't he dead?"

I couldn't stand it any more,so I approached him and asked,"Who are you?" and he replied,"Elvis,and these are my Blue Suede Shoes."

We started the conversation that answered all the questions about him. He told me that he never really died but what was buried was a very good detailed wax figure of him.

I asked him to come to my home and he agreed to come.For dinner we ate chicken ala King,then spent the weekend fishing for King salmon.Later,that Saturday while fishing he told me that after the faked death he was flown to Hawaii and spent years there ,then he came to Kalamazoo to work at the Upjohn Company to use their hair replacement chemical to cure his baldness,for he became bald after the stress from his own death.

I was glad to meet the King,but all I thought was left of him was a pair of sideburns in a casket and a Nothin'but a Hound Dog.

M.Hughes

What We'll Miss...!

Chris Dinehart will miss "you can find your way around here." Mike Brausch will miss "all the girlsand the great field trips.' Danny Griffiths will miss " the memories that I had of the events that happened and of the field trips."

Elvis entertains at Wendy's

PREDICTIONS FOR FUTURE

In twenty years Jason Bowers will be in the WWF.Cory Cameron will have a company making NBA basketballs.

Andrea Dillon will bean operator for Michigan Bell Telephone Company.Mark Erickson will become an Earth Science teacher at Paw Paw Middle School in room 209.

Charlie Douglas will have a tackle, bait, and hunting supplies store.Dana Flanders will be a housewife.Kristi Flesher will become an actress in a successful movie.Becky Burge's mouth will be in a Twizzlers commercial.

Loree Hoover will be dressed-up as Snow White at Disneyland.Amy and Becky Houghton will start their own nursery school.Matt Hughes will be a veterinarian.

Chastity and Michelle Knapp will have a beauty salon in California.

Kevin Kruissel will be a painter. John Kutrich will own an eraser factory.

Jason Lyon will own a bubble gum factory. Jenny Moore will own the Grapevine News Agency .

Skeeter Olsen will be a substitute teacher. Nicole Rickli will become a dairy farmer.

(continued page 5

Predictions for the future of several eighth graders include Melissa Mansfield as an artist., Gloria O'Neil will lifeguard, John Ridderbos will be delivering the mail, Mia Porter will model. and Amy Finley as a singer and possibly a taste-tester for Mrs. S's rock-hard cookies.

Chris Soudek will be an owner of an A.T.V store. Dustin Sides and Carrie Vestal will be married and have a beach house in Florida.

Amy Thompson will have a gossip column in the National Enquiror. Shelly Winkleman will have a racehorse in the Kentucky Derby.

Mrs. Swanson will retire from being an English teacher and write grammar books for a large company.

Mr. Edinger will quit being a U.S.History teacher and live the rest of his life in the M.S.U. football stadium.

Mr. Topp will fight Marvin Haglar and win! Mrs. Dobbs will keep on trying to master her Mrs.Fields cookies. Mr. Erickson will be in Jackson Prison for shooting Mrs.Swanson's record player.

B.R. 5th Grader's Essay

Karissa Finnerman thinks," Going to the middle school next year will be sensational and then again it will be startling. It will be sensational because we will be able to make more friends because there are more people. We will havemore than one teacher. But it will be startling because there are a lot of classes and I will probably get them mixed up. But it sounds like a great place to be. I can't wait! But I'm scared."

See p. 6 for Sarita's essay.

Fifth Grade Fears and Hopes (Essays)

First place in the Good Times essaycontest were Garrett Pohl,St. Mary's sixth grader, Susie Lean, fifth grader,St. Mary's, Sarita Rickli, Cedar Street, and Karissa Finnerman, Black River.

Each will receive a Good Times and a certificate to Sugar Bear.

Second and third place winners , receiving a Good Times, and congratulations are Jenny Conolly and Tabitha Traughber. Cedar Street; Amanda Pritts, Colette Stevenson and Ron Winters, Black River; Stephanie Kohlhaas and Isaac Rzonca, sixth graders at S.Mary's, and Jason Meyer and Cathy Griffiths, fifth graders also at St.Mary's.

Printed below are the first place essays. This year's crop had so many good ones we regret that we were not sble to print more of them.

Susie Lean said,"Going to the middle school will be great. I will meet new people and I hope they will all be my friends. Going to the middle school will be also be hard at times, but fun most of the time. I can go to dances and that will be a ton of a fun. To sum it up,'I can't wait'."

Garrett Pohl believes," Going to the middle school will be intimidating. I have no idea what the middle school will be like. I consider it intimidating because I don't exactly fancy exploring unexplored places,especially when I know there is work ahead. I think I'm exaggerating the facts, but it's better to prepared for hard work and get easy work than to be prepared for easy work and get hard work."

Sarita on 6th Grade...

Sarita Ricklli thinks, "Going to the middle school next year will be embarrassing. All of the 7th and 8th graders will be picking on you and calling you names. The most embarrassing thing of all is the dreaded "being caught locked in the locker." Here you are trying to make friends on your first day of school and what do they do? They lock you in your locker. Finally your best friend comes along and wonders where you are. He finally figures out where you are. You give him your combination number through the vent holes up in the top. He gets you out and you think to yourself, 'How do I get myself into these things?'"

8th Grade Survey.. Opinions

A tradition for the eighth grade is the 8th grade survey tell ing what they will miss, what advice they'd give the 6th and 7th graders and what they will leave and to whom.

Lynne Westphal will miss " not being able to just walk across the street and be at school." Rachel Stoner will miss "getting in trouble in Mr. Topp's class." Jason Bowers will miss" the exciting movies in Mr. Edinger's room," a sentiment echoed by Carrie Vestal and Rusty Martin.

Tonya Hamacher and Tony Johnson will miss Mr. Erickson's dumb jokes." Brad Picardat will miss " roof falling on my head."Robert Eberhard will miss " Mrs. Coleman's class." Debbie Lumm will miss" being packed like sardines at our lockers." Kevin Ray will miss "the smell of the locker room." Tammy Evans agreed.

Loree Hoover will miss "Mr. Kannegieter." Dawn Mann will miss "the gossip in the bathroom." Shanna Himes will miss " school lunches."(good news- they eat at the high school too.) No doubt that will be good news to J.J. Ely and Brad Green who also would miss "the lunch."

Don Brown will miss "Mrs. Swanson's posters falling and Mr. Edinger's depression music." Dawn Flanders will miss "the 7th grade guys." Jessica Angel will miss" Mrs. Swanson because she's cool." Vince Bennett will miss "Mrs. Dobbs , the best teacher." Shelly Winkelman and Nicole Rickli will miss " Mr.Topp teasing us."

Matt Hughes will miss "my stupid questions that Mrs.Swanson will only allow occasionally and I'll miss her classes." Michelle Knapp will miss "the wonderful heat system of this helpless yet unique school." Tony Pechar will miss "picking on Neil Piecyk." Wendy Owens and Chris Soucek both will miss "Mr. Edinger's jokes."

What advice will the 8th grade give to the 6th and 7th graders? Pete Koppers says "Be sure to start of on the teacher's good side."Jenny Moore and Andrea Dillon suggest "Bring stick-ups." Carrie Vestal suggests ,"Don't gossip." Kris Kracker says,"Don't catch verborea in Mr. Erickson's class."

Dustin Sides says ,"Lift weights so you guys won'T be tiny." Candy Weaver says,"Be sure no to fall asleep in Mr. Edinger's movies." Stacy Kruizenga advises,"Listen in Mr. Erickson's class or you'llneverknow what's going on." Kristi Flesher says that when you forget your

assignments or don't do it, always look like you know the answer."

Tessa Casanto said,"Don't put your feet on Mr. Erickson'S furniture." Tina Melson advises,"Work your hardest and just be ypourselves." Troy Riegle says,"Don't get caught cheating."

Eric Griffiths and Jason Lyon agree that you should "get on all the teachers' good sides- unless you don't like them." Chantel Pitcher advises,"Bring your own lunch." AMy Thompson says, "Be daring , try something new once and a while."

Kasey Stenger says,"When they say shut up, shut up." Mike Fisk warns "Don't get Mrs. Firestone mad." Michelle Knapp says,"Relationships are hard in middle school grades. Treat someone theway you want to be treated."

Matt Hughes says,"Have a good time but do your work." Chad Teague's advice is "Study." Mike Bommerscheim ' parting advice is "Always have a pencil with you."

As though they were leaving the world forever (when in fact they're only leaving the middle school) the 8th graders wrote wills.

Candy Weaver and Lisa Carpenter will leave their "giggles to Mr. Topp because without them the class would be boring." Jason Bowers leaves " athletic ability to Chris Pechar because he needs [illegible]"

Stephanie Lockett leaves "my voice to Mrs. Swanson because she talks so low." Brad Picardat leaves "Mr. Cassell his hair." Debbie Lumm will leave "my music to Emily Miller because she doesn't know the words." Rusty Martin leaves "myseat in algebra to anyone who is unlucky enough to get it."

Jenny Bergeson leaves " Anne McGuire my choir shirt." Shannon Terry would give "Brook Cameron the ability to stand up to her brother." Shelly Winkelman leaves "her old tests to her sister." Chad Teague, leaves "my books to some nerd who wants them."

Neal Piecyk leave "my money to Mrs. Dobbs because she'd know how to manage it." Bob Barkman leaves " to my cousin Connie all my teachers..." Allison Spartz leaves "to Angie Finnerman my sisterly love and friendship. I leave to Mr. Topp my height."

Hope Pease leaves " a bomb to Brian PEase." Stacy Kruizenga leaves " my M.S.U. sweatshirt to Mr. Edinger." Mark ERickson leaves " my brains to my brother." AMy Tarala leaves " my puppy to Andrea Dillon because she has been my best friend for eight years. I'd leave her everything else of mine for the same reason."

Tammy Evans leaves " my good humor to Nr. Erickson." Wendy Owens would leave my best friend Estrella my cat and my two porcelain dolls. Nicki I would leave my favorite feathered pillow that was my great great grandma's." Amy Houghton would leave " my Michigan pen and pencil to Mr. Edinger."

Mia Porter says, "I really don't know a lot of people so I'll just say 'hope you have as great a time as we did'." Tutti Offord leaves " my humor to my brother Jamal and mylocker to Pee Wee."Nicole Rickliwill leave " my tiny locker and 8th grade power to Carrie Soule." Eric Webb answered ,"Boy! That's a tuffy. I'D probably have my

most prized and worthless possessions buried with me. The others would go to younger relatives."

Vince Bennett would leave "my left hook to Mr. Topp." Stephanie Olson would leave "my locker to Dawn." J.J.Ely leaves "all my tests and quizzes that are hanging on the refrigerator." Jessica Angel leaves "to Joyce Ericson MR. Edinger's jokes."

Leanna Charlier leaves " to my sister Tricia all my heavy books and my old locker."Don Brown leaves " to Randy all the joy of being an eighth grader next year."Terry Reisterer will leave " to Mr. Topp and Mr. Snyder and Mr. Lutz my laughs and smiles because I had the most fun in those classes." Sheletha Manuel will leave " my sweetness to Hanna Richmond, and my book reports tpo anyone who wants them."

Becky Houghton leave " a hug and a kiss to Jerry McCormick because he is so sweet." Courtney Buhl will leave " all my Michigan shirts to Mr. Edinger because I know he'll take such good care of them."

Chad Kuhlman leaves " my boat to Neil Boff because he is my best friend." Dana Flanders leaves " all the fun tims I've had to my cousin Erica Mount and to Mike Curtis all my hugs and fun because he's a great friend."

Jennifer Gustin leaves " to my sister all my notes;she may need them."Tina Melson leaves " all my love and friendship to Allison and Stacy and I want my joy and care left at the middle school." Jenny Ford leaves "my brain to Shara White and my weirdness to Tessa Casanto." Gloria O'Neil will leave " my bad grades to Rob Peplinski and Jake Pursley. Chastity Knapp will leave "Mrs. BEckstrom and her sweetness." Kim Anderson says,"Hanna Richmond, go after those boys and don't be so shy." Cory Cameron leaves "my basketball skills to Bill Herberrt." Jeaneen Merrill leaves "a year of office duty to Christine Curry and Stephanie Kowalski because they love it so much." Amy Buskirk leaves "my temper to Dawn Parks." Kevin Van Brussel leaves "the 8th grade hall to the upcoming 8th graders. It's always too crowded." Cathy Buchanan will leave " mu poster to Jessica because she likes Johnny Depp." Andrea Dillon leaves " to Mr. Edinger my love of history movies and to Mrs. Barrett my fines."

Loretta Stewart leaves "all my books. They can have mine and Amy's messy locker." Geasa Leslie leaves "my horse Studart to Kim Breed because she lknows the most about himand is the only one who can get him to do anything." Jill McMachen leaves "myseat in the back of Mr. Topp's room to anyone who llikes to laugh and have a good time." Andrea Seelye will leave " the entire building to Raid experiments and Orko student training."

Nicki Lounsbury leaves "my homework for Chantel because she doesn't like to do hers."

Asia Carothers will miss" Mr. Drury. I like him becasue he always makes me laugh when I'm feeling down."Patti Burrows will miss "my friends and all the fun we had." Shannon Melson will miss "all the good and bad times we have shared with teachers and friends. I'll miss getting to see all of my favorite teachers in 8th grade." John Ashbaugh will miss"my seat in the back of Mr. Erickson's class."